cease hostile propaganda against each other, Pro-Pakistan banners were displayed and anti-India literature distributed during the visit of a Sikh Jatha to a Gurudwara in Lahore;

(b) whether this incident has been taken up with the Government of Pakistan; and

(c) if so, what is Pakistan Government's response in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMALA SINHA): (a) and (b) During the visit of Sikh/ Sehejdhari Jatha to Pakistan from 20-29 June, 1997 on the occasion of Barsi of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, anti-India banners were displayed and anti-India literature was distributed at Gurdwara Dera Sahib, Lahore.

A protest was lodged with the Government of Pakistan in which it was pointed out that these activities constitute hostile propaganda and a provocative action against India and hence are contrary to the Joint Statement issued in Islamabad on 23rd June, 1997 at the conclusion of the Foreign Secretary level talks held between the two countries.

(c) Government of Pakistan have denied any official involvement in these activities.

Dispute between India and Nepal over Kalapani

946. SHRI AKHILESH DAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any dispute between India and Nepal over Kalapani situated on Nepal's far western frontier;

(b) whether it is a fact that recently expert-level talks between both the countries were held;

(c) if so, what has been the outcome of the talks;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Nepal has objected to the presence of Indian troops at Kalapani; and

(e) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMALA SINHA): (a) to (e) During the visit of the Prime Minister to Nepal from 5th to 7th June, 1997, it was decided that the expert-level Joint Working Group (JWG) constituted by the Joint Technical Level Boundary Committee should meet within a month to examine relevant facts relating to the demarcation of the boundary alignment in the western sector, including the Kalapani area, and to propose, if necessary, further measures in this regard. In this context, Nepal also referred to the presence of Indian troops at Kalapani (an ITBP post is located there).

Boundary identification work is an ongoing process, undertaken jointly in accordance with agreed basis maps, under the guidance of the Joint Technical Level India-Nepal Boundary Committee set up in 1981. A time bound programme for joint identification of the boundary was drawn up in 1995. Work is proceeding apace.

In accordance with the decision taken during Prime Minister's visit, the JWG met in Kathmandu in the first week of July, 1997. The two sides had a useful initial exchange of views on the demarcation of the boundary alignment in the western sector, including the Kalapani area. It was agreed to continue the dialogue. The boundary survey would be given priority.

Unilateral steps to Normalise Relations with Pakistan

947. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have unilaterally taken any steps to normalise our relations with Pakistan;

(b) if so, the broad details thereof;

(c) whether Government have received appropriate response to those measures from the government of Pakistan; and